

IDAHO NEWS RELEASE



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Idaho Alfalfa Seed and Clover Seed Production Continue to Decline

Producers in Idaho harvested 15,000 acres of alfalfa seed in 2003, down 17 percent from the 18,000 acres harvested in 2002 and 44 percent below the 27,000 acres harvested in 2001. Average yield, on a clean basis, was 660 pounds per harvested acre in 2003, down 130 pounds from the previous year. Production for 2003 totaled 9.9 million pounds, 30 percent below the 2002 crop and down 49 percent from 2001. The average price received by growers for the 2003 crop jumped \$2 per hundredweight from the previous year to \$121 per hundredweight, resulting in a farm level value of production of \$12.0 million.

Harvested acreage of red clover seed in Idaho totaled 1,200 acres during 2003, unchanged from 2002 and 52 percent below 2001. Average clean yield was 560 pounds per acre, down 20 pounds per acre from the previous year. Production for 2003 totaled 672,000 pounds, down 3 percent from 2002 and 54 percent below 2001. The average price received by growers for the 2003 crop was \$97 per hundredweight, \$3 per hundredweight less than 2002. This results in a farm level value of production of \$652,000. This survey was completed in cooperation with the Idaho Alfalfa and Clover Seed Commission.

FOR MORE INFORMATION: Call (208) 334-1507